



Undermining the Firm Foundation

Luke 6:47-49

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- “Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. 49 But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”

Essential Principles Regarding Foundations

- It's the most important part of the building.
 - 1Cor. 3:9-11 - "For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Essential Principles Regarding Foundations

- The foundation is the first part constructed.
 - 1Peter 2:4-9 - “Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, ‘Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.’ 7 Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, ‘The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone,’ 8 and ‘A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense.’ They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed. 9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light”

Essential Principles Regarding Foundations

- The foundation must support the weight of the building.
 - Eph. 2:19-22 - “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”

Essential Principles Regarding Foundations

- The foundation is hidden from casual view.
 - Isa. 28:16-17 - “Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; Whoever believes will not act hastily. 17 Also I will make justice the measuring line, And righteousness the plummet...’”

The Church's Firm Foundation

- Jesus is the foundation that cannot be damaged though all hell arise against it.
 - Matt. 16:18 - “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

The Church's Firm Foundation

- False teachers cannot destroy the church
 - 2Tim. 2:14-19 - “Remind them of these things, charging them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers. 15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 16 But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. 17 And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, 18 who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some. 19 Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: ‘The Lord knows those who are His,’ and, ‘Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.’”

The Church's Firm Foundation

- There are no forces on earth (governments, armies, coalitions, et al) that can shake the Church's One Foundation
- Heb. 12:22-24 - "But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel."

The Church's Firm Foundation

- Heb. 12:27-29 - "Now this, 'Yet once more,' indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. 29 For our God is a consuming fire."
- God shook heaven and earth, and the Church's One Foundation did not move.

The Church's Firm Foundation

- Ex. 19:18 - "Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly."
- Haggai 2:6-7 - "For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; 7 and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts."

The Church's Firm Foundation

- The Foundation of the entire Church cannot be undermined, because the Foundation is in heaven.
- Local churches, however, can lose their firm anchorage in Christ; and, they do so on a frequent basis.
 - Isa. 30:13 - “Therefore this iniquity shall be to you
Like a breach ready to fall, A bulge in a high wall,
Whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant.”

Undermining The Firm Foundation At The Local Level

- Living in the past
- Living in the world
- Living for self
- Living for acceptance
 - 1Sam. 8:4-5 - “Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, 5 and said to him, ‘Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.’”

Undermining The Firm Foundation At The Local Level

- Living for the status quo
 - Heb. 5:12-14 - “For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”

Undermining The Firm Foundation At The Local Level

- Living for exhilaration
 - Acts 17:21 - “For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing.”
- Living half asleep
 - 1Peter 5:8 - “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

Undermining The Firm Foundation At The Local Level

- It is amazing that all of the powers in hell and all the forces of this earth cannot shake the firm foundation, but we can undermine it in a local church and for ourselves with one of these attitudes.
- Joel 3:16 - “The LORD also will roar from Zion, And utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; But the LORD will be a shelter for His people...”